California Weather-Hydro Conditions during December 2015

As of December 31, statewide hydrologic conditions were as follows: precipitation, 100 percent of average to date; snow water content, 105 percent of average to date (35 percent of the April 1 average); runoff, 60 percent of average to date; and reservoir storage, 55 percent of average for the date. Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff, for Water Year 2016, observed through December 31, 2015 was about 1.7 million acre-feet (MAF), which is about 53 percent of average. In comparison to Water Year 2015, the observed Sacramento River Region unimpaired runoff through December 31, 2014 was about 3.6 MAF, or about 115 percent of average.

On December 31, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 16.7 inches, which is about 94 percent of the seasonal average to date and 33 percent of an average water year (50.0 inches). During December, the total precipitation for the 8-Stations was 11.8 inches, or about 140 percent of average for the month. Last year on December 31, the Water Year 2015 seasonal total for the 8-Stations was 22.8 inches, or about 129 percent of average.

On December 31, the San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index Water Year total was 15.7 inches, which is about 120 percent of the seasonal average to date and 38 percent of an average water year (40.8 inches). During December, the total precipitation for the 5-Stations was 8.8 inches or about 142 percent of average for the month. Last year on December 31, the Water Year 2015 seasonal total for the 5-Stations was 9.1 inches, or about 69 percent of average.

Daily Precipitation (in inches) for Selected Stations as of 12/31/2015											
Station	Oct 1 to Date 2015 - 2015	% Average	Season to Date 2014 - 2015	% Average	% Average Oct 1 - Sep 30						
Mount Shasta	8.96	59	19.22	127	21						
Eureka	20.08	126	17.84	112	50						
Redding	9.83	76	16.29	127	28						
South Lake Tahoe	8.12	102	3.79	48	40						
Sacramento Executive Airport	3.44	55	10.41	166	19						
Santa Rosa (Sonoma Co AP)	7.31	53	16.42	119	20						
San Francisco	6.61	75	14.45	163	28						
Stockton	4.59	97	7.84	166	33						
Yosemite	17.78	141	7.74	62	47						
Monterey	7.62	148	11.76	228	47						
Paso Robles	1.99	54	5.72	156	16						
Fresno	5.19	150	3.19	92	45						
Bakersfield	1.33	68	2.67	136	21						
Death Valley	1.08	196	0.53	96	46						
Los Angeles	1.02	25	4.62	115	7						
Riverside	1.12	40	2.30	82	9						
Palm Springs	0.17	9	0.87	47	3						
San Diego	2.85	92	4.87	157	28						

Key Reservoir Storage (1,000 AF) as of 12/31/2015												
Reservoir	River	Storage	Avg Storage	% Average	Capacity	% Capacity	Flood Control Encroachment	Total Space Available				
Trinity Lake	Trinity	497	1,642	30	2,448	20		1,951				
Shasta Lake	Sacramento	1,427	2,828	50	4,552	31	-1,944	3,125				
Lake Oroville	Feather	1,017	2,174	47	3,538	29	-2,007	2,521				
New Bullards Bar Res	Yuba	395	546	72	966	41	-401	571				
Folsom Lake	American	239	476	50	977	24	-338	738				
New Melones Res	Stanislaus	310	1,382	22	2,400	13	-1,660	2,110				
Don Pedro Res	Tuolumne	707	1,339	53	2,030	35	-983	1,323				
Lake McClure	Merced	88	452	19	1,025	9	-587	937				
Millerton Lake	San Joaquin	177	271	65	520	34	-258	343				
Pine Flat Res	Kings	151	408	37	1,000	15	-530	849				
Isabella	Kern	33	159	21	568	6	-137	535				
San Luis Res	(Offstream)	436	1,388	31	2,041	21		1,603				

The latest National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC) long-range, 1-month precipitation outlook for January 2016, issued December 31, 2015, suggests above normal precipitation for almost all of California, except for the extreme northern region of the State where equal chances of wet or dry conditions are suggested.